

**TOWNSHIP OF MACHAR  
MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING  
Monday, January 23, 2023**

**Call to Order, Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof; nil.**

Council present: Mayor Lynda Carleton, Deputy Mayor Ron McLaren, Councillors Neil Scarlett, Pearl Ivens and Blair Flowers.

Staff present: Clerk Administrator Brenda Paul and Treasurer Deputy Clerk Angela Loney.

Guest scheduled: MPAC Account Manager Steve McArthur. Guest observing: Mark Smuck.

**All things MPAC and Assessment related, AMCTO Advocacy Update, Calling for Return to the Assessment Cycle, supports AMO; a Call for Provincial Action on Property Assessments**

Presentation given. Property values continue to be based on the market at Jan 1, 2016, there has been no reassessment in 8 years per the Province. This allowed MPAC to clear work backlog. Property values for 2022 and 2023 continue to be based on the Jan 1, 2016 valuation date. The Assessment Cycle phase in was explained (increases phased in over 4 years, decreases applied immediately). The 5 Major Factors in determining 85% of a property's assessed value are: location, lot size, quality of construction, square footage, and age of property. The real estate market has cooled a little bit, however it was noted that income levels are not keeping up with the values of properties (making housing unaffordable). Building Permits are submitted electronically every month. Appreciation was expressed to our Chief Building Official Brian Dumas. MPAC has committed to adding the appropriate value within 1 year from date of occupancy and the added assessment will be retro-active to the date of occupancy. Request for Reconsiderations were discussed with confirmation the result could be an assessment increase. Property owners are advised that if you could sell your property for the assessment indicated, then the value is correct. There's been no indication from the Province on when the assessment cycle will return.

**BUSINESS**

**1. Adoption of Jan 9, 2023 minutes, Resolution**

**11-23 McLaren, Scarlett**

THAT we adopt Jan 9, 2023 minutes. CARRIED

- **Integrity Commissioner Services Agreement, Resolution**

Further to discussions at our last Council meeting, we can now proceed to sign the agreement.

**12-23 Ivens, Flowers**

THAT we approve Agreement for IC Services with ADR Chambers and authorize the Mayor and Clerk Administrator to sign the agreement. CARRIED

**2. Annual By-Laws; Interest, Penalty, Interim Taxes, Resolution**

**13-23 Scarlett, McLaren**

THAT we give 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> readings and finally pass Annual By-Laws as follows: No. 1-23; interest to be added to Tax Arrears, No. 2-23; penalty charge for non-payment of Current Taxes, and No. 3-23; Interim tax levy. CARRIED

**3. 2023 Spring Newsletter, Resolution**

Reviewed. Council complimented staff on a job well done. Further to previous discussions on the Newsletter, sample comparisons were sought out by staff and shown to Council. Upcoming events are not usually included in the Newsletter due to timing constraints and inclusivity. Newsletters are issued Mar 1 and Aug 1. All events provided to us are normally posted to our website; Events page.

**14-23 Ivens, Scarlett**

THAT we approve 2023 Spring Newsletter. CARRIED

**4. Pay List by Fund for Dec, Resolution**

Reviewed. Councillor training achieved cost savings. Q4 school board payments added.

**15-23 McLaren, Scarlett**

THAT we approve Pay List by Fund as of 31 Dec 2022: \$196,924.86 + \$118,422.05 grand totals.  
CARRIED

**COMMITTEES**

**5. Machar By-Law Report 2022 Year in Review, Resolution**

Reviewed. Dogs and trailers are top of the list in numbers. Our Zoning By-Law permits trailers for occupancy up to 30 days in a calendar year, we don't allow permanent travel trailers. By-Law Enforcement Officer monitors the trailers and takes action once the 30 days is expired.

\*There is a small number of trailers that are grandfathered (currently 8 permitted).

**16-23 Flowers, Ivens**

THAT we accept By-Law Report; 2022 By-Law Year in Review. CARRIED

**6. Shared Services Monthly Reports for Dec; Arena and Fire**

Reviewed. Items provided: Fire Chief's Monthly Report Jan 2023 (chute time, Joly Fire Protection Agreement), Income Statement revenues 81.65% (Fire Response Revenue \$35,921.90 compared to \$12,500 budgeted), Expenses 83.26%, AP Ledger Dec \$8,908.56 Total. \*Commonly called "chute time" this graph shows the number of times when fire trucks, and other vehicles take longer than **two (2) minutes** to begin responding on a call. "Chute time" is measured from the time when a call is dispatched, until the time when an emergency vehicle begins continuous travel to a call.

Email indicates the condenser is a current issue at the Arena as South River tries to determine the best time for the permanent replacement. They're awaiting quotes and delivery times to determine if replacement in their annual shutdown period this year of Apr-Jun is possible. Items provided: Chief Operator Report for Dec 2022 (Condenser is starting to leak in cold weather), Income Statement revenues 80.53%, Expenses 100.32%, AP Ledger for Dec \$16,857.06 total. \*Information from Chief Operator Report for Nov 2022 indicates new units (Condenser) of that size (used Condenser) are now estimated around \$175,000. Other items due for replacement are the Chiller (2024 to meet TSSA requirements) \$150,000 and the Dehumidifier \$135,000. The Arena Ice Pad is estimated at \$1,000,000 and is over 20 years past its life expectancy. The Olympia should be replaced in 2027 and the current cost for an electric model is \$135,000. These pieces should be able to be funded by grants, if they're ever fortunate enough to get one approved.

\$175,000 at 50% capital share = \$87,500. Last year capital budgeted at \$93,829. \*Request listing.

**7. Almaguin Climate Action; Event Jan 16, 2023 summary**

Written summary provided from Al Bottomley. Councillor Scarlett provided a report on the very informative event. Misconceptions around electric cars were highlighted, 80% of lithium batteries are used for cell phones/tablets, sodium batteries are coming, operating cost is less compared to gas. It was agreed a demonstration could be co-ordinated for a Public Works meeting in Apr-May. Additionally, an event in South River (Brewery) could be co-ordinated to get information out as the Burks Falls event was not well attended by other municipalities, despite the invites sent out.

**8. EMS (Emergency Medical Services) area rep appointment**

Sundridge has supported the appointment of Councillor Pearl Ivens to achieve consensus needed.

**9. Joint Building Permit summaries for Dec, Year End 2022, Resolution**

Reviewed. Thanks expressed to Clerk Administrator Brenda Paul for noticing an error. Correction has been made and all reports effected revised. Machar has the highest percentage of permit fees collected at 24.517% for 2022. Revised permit activity at Dec 31, 2022 = Machar 40, Strong 33... Machar further reflects the highest permit fees at \$102,152.50 and project values \$6,493,500.

### **17-23 Flowers, Scarlett**

THAT we acknowledge JBC (Joint Building Committee) Year End Reports 2022. CARRIED

#### **a. Deputy Chief Building Official/Building Inspector job opportunity, ad closes Feb 10, 2023**

### **10. 2023 FONOM Conference Town of Parry Sound May 8-10**

Reviewed. Conference highlights include: Information and insight on topical municipal issues, Sessions focused on sharing leading municipal practices, Banquet dinner and entertainment, Annual awards presentation, Minister's Forum, Annual FONOM business meeting. Awaiting the agenda.

### **11. District of Parry Sound Social Services Admin Bd area rep CAO Report Jan 2023 ATTACHED**

## **INFORMATION**

**12. N Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, News Release, STAND UP! Classes Are Back!** A free, 12-week fall prevention program for older adults, will be offered in the Nipissing & Parry Sound districts starting this Jan, the program focuses of building balance, strength and flexibility of older adults who are concerned about their balance or who have had a fall

**13. AMO Communications, AMO Policy Update,** New Affordable Child Care Spaces, Information from Province on More Homes Built Faster Plan, Energy Reports Released, Annual Emergency Exercise Requirement, Golf Car Consultations Underway

#### **14. AMO Watchfile Jan 5, 2023 In This Issue**

- Call for applications to fill AMO Board vacancies
- Nominations Report on the 2023-2027 ROMA Board of Directors Elections
- Final Comments on More Homes Built Faster Plan Posted
- New Municipal Resources on Electricity for Municipalities
- Invitation to golf car consultations
- Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1) support
- 2023-2024 Seniors Community Grant Applications
- Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program: COVID-19
- Hotel Release for AMO 2023 Conference
- Register today for the 2023 ROMA Conference and Annual General Meeting
- Councillor training at ROMA Annual General Meeting and Conference
- New dates for Planning and OFIFC Indigenous Community Awareness trainings
- Strengthen your leadership: AMO's New Councillor Training
- Webinar: A Barrier Free Website Builder for Municipalities
- LAS – Here to help you in 2023!
- Fuel your Fleets with Canoe Procurement Group
- Bayham resolution re Province-wide shortage of children's medication
- Advantage Ontario Long-Term Care Webinar for Councillor's
- Careers: AMO, Ministry of Labour, and Oxford County

#### **15. AMO Watchfile Jan 12, 2023 In This Issue**

- Call for nominations to fill AMO Board vacancies
- Nominations Report on the 2023-2027 ROMA Board of Directors elections
- Final comments on More Homes Built Faster Plan posted
- 2023-2024 Seniors Community Grant applications
- Invitation to golf car consultations
- Register today for the 2023 ROMA Annual General Meeting and Conference
- Councillor training at 2023 ROMA Annual General Meeting and Conference
- New dates for Planning and OFIFC Indigenous Community Awareness trainings
- Strengthen your leadership: AMO's New Councillor training
- Webinar: A Barrier Free Website Builder for Municipalities
- Canoe webinar series
- Book your 2023 Road Assessment today

- Hydro One Delegation meetings at ROMA 2023
  - New municipal resources on electricity for municipalities
  - Advantage Ontario Long-Term Care webinar for councillors
  - Careers: AMO, MOLITSD, Brampton, HSC, and Niagara Region
- 16. AMCTO The Municipal Minute Jan 11, 2023**, With inter-city bus travel gaining steam, what's a city without a bus station to do? Property tax hikes loom in wake of provincial housing rule changes, GTA municipalities warn, How cities, scientists and nurseries are partnering to help seedlings grow into urban forests, Chatham ranked as top growth city in Canada, Environmental group files for judicial review after Ontario orders Hamilton to expand urban boundary, Canadian small businesses are expanding with a little help from data, Causes of leadership mental blocks and what to do differently
- 17. Prime Minister's Awards**, Deadline is fast approaching! Do you know an amazing teacher or early childhood educator? Why not start the New Year off on a high note by nominating them for a Prime Minister's Award?
- 18. Prime Minister's Awards**, Deadline is Jan 17, 2023
- 19. FONOM Office**, Recommends the Sustainable Northern Ontario Economic Development (SNOED) course Poster, FONOM supporting the SNOED
- 20. Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)**, Rural Advocacy Update, Broadband and inter-community bus service

#### **INFORMATION - COVID-19**

- 21. Realty Circulation Publication (IO)**, Infrastructure Ontario, Joseph Brant Hospital Pandemic Response Unit (PRU)
- 22. N Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, Public Service Announcement, COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics This Week**, the following clinics this week include: Mattawa Jan 9, N Bay Jan 10, Parry Sound Jan 12
- 23. Muskoka Algonquin Health Care (MAHC), COVID-19 Outbreak Confirmed Over**, MAHC in collaboration with the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit, has confirmed a COVID outbreak impacting the Medical/Surgical unit at the South Muskoka Memorial Hospital (SMMH) Site is now over

#### **ADDITIONAL/ROUND TABLE/NOTICE OF MOTION**

**North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit; Northeast appointment for 2023-2026 is Blair Flowers**

**District of Parry Sound Municipal Association; Ward 5 appointment**

Municipality of Magnetawan has supported Lynda Carleton resulting in a tie with Tim Bryson.

#### **South River Machar Medical Centre**

Mayor Carleton inquired on the review of space for the Loan Cupboard. Minutes from the Jan 17, 2023 meeting haven't yet been received. Councillor Flowers responded there are 2 possible spaces; a room in the Lower Level which the tenant is using but isn't included in their rent, or the Conference Room. It was noted there is a vacant suite on the Main Level, however it's being used by a tenant and isn't included in their rent. The Caretaker (Maintenance Person) attended the meeting and all went well. Administration advised we've received 2 further snowplow complaints from the doctors' office staff.

#### **Machar Recreation**

Family Day at Eagle Lake Narrows discussed. It was agreed to proceed per activities last year. The skating ribbon and rink are dependent on appropriate weather conditions. Seating discussed (blocks with 2x8). Hot chocolate canisters (Councillor Flowers will get) and hot dogs from the Eagle Lake Narrows Store (Councillor Ivens or Councillor Scarlett will approach) were discussed. Event poster discussed. Family Day at Eagle Lake Narrows will be held on Sun, Feb 19, 2023 from 3-7 pm.

South River Lions Winterfest activities are the weekend before (Dinner - Sat, Feb 11, 2023).

Easter Egg Hunt discussed (potentially at Mikisew Provincial Park).

#### **ADJOURN**

**18-23 Scarlett, McLaren**

THAT we give 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and final reading to Confirming By-Law and that we adjourn until our Regular meeting scheduled for Mon, Feb 13, 2023. CARRIED

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Mayor Lynda Carleton

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Clerk Administrator Brenda Paul, AMCT

**BP/tb**